

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-11 and 14 are pending in the present application, Claim 9 having been amended, and Claims 1-8, 12, and 13 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the amendment to Claim 9 is self-evident, and Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the specification was objected to; Claims 4 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; Claims 3, 4, and 8 were objected to; Claims 1, 2, 5-7, and 9-14 were allowed, and Claims 3, 4, and 8 were indicated as allowable if amended to overcome the above-noted objections and rejections.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

With respect to the objection to the specification, the informalities identified in the outstanding Office Action are corrected. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, Applicants respectfully submit that this ground of rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of Claims 4 and 8.

With respect to the rejection of Claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, Applicants respectfully submit that the ground of rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of Claim 8.

With respect to the objections to Claims 3, 4, and 8, these are moot in view of their cancellation.

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Reply to Office Action of September 12, 2006

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for formal allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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